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TAMPA MAN SENTENCED FOR RECEIPT AND POSSESSION OF CHILD PORNOGRAPHY

Tampa, FL - United States District Court Judge Steven D. Merryday today sentenced ROGER STOWELL, age 72, to a sentence of 17 ½ years' imprisonment, to be followed by a term of lifetime supervised release. The defendant pled guilty on August 9, 2007 to two counts of receiving visual depictions containing minors engaged in sexually explicit conduct.

According to the court documents, Hillsborough County Sheriff's deputies responded to Stowell's residence in Tampa in March, 2007 after family members discovered images on his home computer depicting minors engaged in sexually explicit conduct. The FBI Innocent Images Task Force reviewed the computer and found numerous images and video files containing minors engaged in sexually explicit conduct. FBI agents later met Stowell when he returned to the United States on April 8, 2007 and found him to be in possession of more such images on a thumb drive he had with him.

The case was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation- Innocent Images Task Force, with the help of the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office. The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Jay L. Hoffer of the Tampa Division.